Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02

AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /072 W ----- 054444

P R 241906Z MAY 76
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3300
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, OAS, VE

SUBJECT: VENEZUELA TO ATTEND SANTIAGO OAS MEETING

- 1. VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ INFORMED THE PRESS ON MAY 22 THAT VENEZUELA WILL BE REPRESENTED AT THE OAS MEETING IN SANTIAGO.
- 2. PEREZ EXPLAINED, "WE HAVE RELATIONS WITH CHILE; THIS MEETING IS BEING CONVENED BY AN ORGANIZATION OF WHICH OUR COUNTRY IS A MEMBER, AND THE PRESENCE OF VENEZUELA DOES NOT RUN COUNTER TO THE CONDUCT OF AN INTERNATIONAL POLICY WHICH RESPECTS THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER NATIONS...THIS DECISION DOES NOT IN ANY WAY SIGNIFY SOLIDARITY WITH THE TYPE OF GOVERNMENT RULING IN CHILE, WHICH IT IS NOT OUR POSITION TO JUDGE, BUT I CAN TELL YOU IN ADVANCE THAT DURING THE DEBATE THE VENEZUELAN DELEGATION WILL EMPHASIZE THE DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS. MOREOVER, IT WAS KNOWN PREVIOUS TO THIS MEETING THAT THE VENEZUELAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOREIGN MINISTER WOULD GO TO SANTIAGO IN ORDER TO OBTAIN

AGREEMENTS OF TRANSCENDENTAL IMPORTANCE FOR THE ANDEAN PACT AND LATIN AMERICAN INTEGRATION."

3. COMMENT: THUS FAR THERE HAS BEEN SOME LIMITED CRITICISM OF THE GOV'S DECISION TO SEND FOREIGN MINISTER ESCOVAR TO THE SANTIAGO OAS MEETING. THE LEFT-WING MEP PARTY AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, PROMINENT AD DEPUTY CARLOS CANACHE MATA HAVE STATED PUBLICLY THAT THE GOV SHOULD HAVE AVOIDED THE MEETING. ASENCIO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: POLICIES, MEETING DELEGATIONS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 24 MAY 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cobumhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CARACA05820

Document Number: 1976CARACA05820 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: D760201-0722

From: CARACAS

Handling Restrictions: n/a Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760521/aaaaasjd.tel Line Count: 70 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION ARA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a

Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: coburnhl

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 14 JUL 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <27 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: VENEZUELA TO ATTEND SANTIAGO OAS MEETING TAGS: PFOR, VE, OAS To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006